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CONTOUR FARMING FOR SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

Plowing, planting, cultivating, and harvesting crops in rows that run across slopes, rather than up and down the slopes, have proved to be valuable methods of soil conservation. Each plow furrow makes a miniature terrace that helps to hold raindrops where they fall, and keeps soil from being washed off the fields.



Water standing between contour lister ridges. Much of this water would have been lost had the field been farmed in straight rows.



Contour basin-listed field holding moisture following a thaw.



Rows on the contour in a terraced field. When heavy rains fall they slow the speed of run-off water and check erosion.



Field division fence on the contour. The fence serves as a permanent guide line for level row farming. Note field road follows the fence.



Harvesting wheat on the contour.



Chart No. 2



Binding sorgho which was planted in contour rows.

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